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LEVEL news

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May Precipitation Over the Great Lakes
As a percentage of the long-term May average:
Great Lakes Basin 131%
Lake Erie (including Lake St. Clair) 124%
Lake Superior 102%
Lakes Michigan-Huron 154%
Lake Ontario 102%
Note: These figures are preliminary
May Outflows From the Great Lakes

Volume 9, Number 6 **June 8, 2001**

Above-average Precipitation Helps Maintain

Seasonal Rise in Water Levels

The month of May ended cool and wet across much of the Great Lakes basin. Preliminary data indicates that the Great Lakes basin received above average precipitation during May.

The wet weather helped resume the seasonal rise in water levels which seemed to stall part way through the month. Daily levels on all lakes actually declined by one or two centimetres at some point during the month before increasing again in response to rainfall.

The water levels of all of the Great Lakes remain below average. Lake Superior began June about 13 cm below its long-term average levels for this time of the year, but 12 cm above its levels of last year at the same time. Lakes Michigan-Huron remain about 54 cm below average, down 4 cm from last year. Lakes Michigan-Huron began June just above Chart Datum. Lakes St. Clair and Erie started June 28 and 22 cm below average, respectively, while Lake Ontario remains just 9 cm below average.

Montréal Harbour's monthly mean water level was 6.00 m in May, about 130 cm lower than the 1967-2000 long-term average for the month and 66 cm lower than last year.

On May 29th, the gates of the Iroquois Dam were partially closed to suppress the very high water levels on Lake St. Lawrence. Recreational boaters who wish to transit the St. Lawrence River at Iroquois must use the Iroquois Lock.

As indicated in the Water Level Bulletin, water levels on all lakes, except Lake Ontario, are expected to continue below average throughout the six-month forecast period shown. Lake Ontario's level may move above average starting in June or July.

Be Up-to-date

With low water level conditions continuing, recreational boaters on the Great Lakes, connecting channels and St. Lawrence River should keep informed of current conditions before setting out. Be sure you have up-to-date navigation

As a percentage of the long-term May average:

Lake Superior 93%

Lake Erie 87%

Lake Huron 84%

Lake Ontario 91%

Note These figures are preliminary.

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Summary information for "LEVEL*news*"

charts and know how water levels compare to Chart Datum wherever and whenever you cruise or sail. Present water levels on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River are available by telephone from a network of gauging stations operated by the Canadian Hydrographic Service. Additional information about this service is provided below.

Public Meetings

The International St. Lawrence River Board of Control has scheduled its annual public meeting for the evening of June 19th at the Holiday Inn, 1 Princess St., Kingston, Ontario. The meeting is scheduled to start at 7:00 p.m.

The International Lake Superior Board of Control will hold its annual meeting with the public on June 27th from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Inn at Christie's Mill, Port Severn, Ontario.

Accessing Water Level Data by Telephone

Present water levels on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River are available from a network of gauging stations operated by the Canadian Hydrographic Service. Phone numbers for the stations are listed below. When you call a particular station, the answering equipment will ask you to press 1 for English or 2 for French, on the keypad of your touch-tone phone. If you do not have a touch-tone phone, the message will start after a few seconds delay. The present water level is given in metres relative to chart datum at that station. Next the message gives the high and low water levels recorded during the previous 12 hours, followed by the elevation of chart datum. You can press 1 or 2 at any time during the message to have it start again, or press 0 to end the call.

Lake Superior	at Thunder Bay	(807) 344-3141
	at Rossport	(807) 824-2250
	at Michipicoten	(705) 856-0077
	at Gros Cap	(705) 779-2052
St. Marys River	above the lock	(705) 949-2066
	below the lock	(705) 254-7989
North Channel	at Thessalon	(705) 842-2215
	at Little Current	(705) 368-3695
Georgian Bay	at Parry Sound	(705) 746-6544
	at Collingwood	(705) 445-8737
Lake Huron	at Tobermory	(519) 596-2085
	at Goderich	(519) 524-8058

St. Clair River	at Point Edward	(519) 344-0263
	at Port Lambton	(519) 677-4092
Lake St. Clair	at Belle River	(519) 728-2882
Detroit River	at Amherstburg	(519) 736-4357
Lake Erie	at Bar Point	(519) 736-7488
	at Kingsville	(519) 733-4417
	at Erieau	(519) 676-1915
	at Port Stanley	(519) 782-3866
	at Port Dover	(519) 583-2259
	at Port Colborne	905-835-2501
Lake Ontario	at Port Weller	905-646-9568
	at Burlington	905-544-5610
	at Toronto	416-868-6026
	at Cobourg	905-372-6214
	at Kingston	(613) 544-9264
St. Lawrence River	at Brockville	(613) 345-0095
	at Iroquois above lock	(613) 652-4426
	at Iroquois below lock	(613) 652-4839
	at Morrisburg	(613) 543-3361
	at Cornwall	(613) 930-9373
	at Summerstown	(613) 931-2089

Call 905-336-4844, fax: 905-336-8916 or e-mail: solvasonr@dfo-mpo.gc.ca to report any problems or to obtain additional information.

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